

**The Care and Training of Children.** By Le Grand Kerr, M. D. Funk and Wagnalls Co., N. Y. 1910.

The subjects treated in this small volume range from the regulating of a child's diet, bowels, bathing and sleep to his moral training and education, and concludes with a chapter on evil habits and the sex problem.

It is essentially a parents' book and while containing many useful suggestions, all physicians would not agree with some of Dr. Kerr's ideas, as for example, considering the morning cup of coffee harmless for children arriving at the school age.

The author makes no pretense at originality and has not added anything of value to the more able works already written along these lines.

E. H. W.

**Case Histories in Pediatrics.** By John Lovett Morse, M. D.; published by W. M. Leonard, Boston. 1911.

Although this volume is small it contains a large amount of information; and gives the most recent views on the topics presented. It particularly explains the means of diagnosis and of differential diagnosis; not simply the methods employed in collecting data, but especially the sifting process by which the data have always to be analyzed and weighed. In treatment likewise the book gives many helpful points, not only as to what to do but also as to what not to do. There can be no doubt of the value of the case method in teaching, for it is the method of every-day work. The histories are given of actual cases met in practice; in each case the physical findings are described; the possibilities as to diagnosis are discussed; it is shown how an accurate conclusion is to be reached in every similar case; also what is to be done and what results may rightly be expected from proper treatment. The book is really as advertised, a post-graduate course in pediatrics; and written by a man of large experience, it affords every physician an opportunity to become acquainted with the most up-to-date views about disease in children, without traveling to Boston to learn them. The one criticism to be made is that the entire field of pediatrics is not covered; but this could not be expected in the presentation of 100 case histories. No doubt Dr. Morse will ultimately write a supplementary volume; and in the meantime no one will waste dollars or time who buys and studies the present volume.

W. F. C.

**Golden Rules of Diagnosis and Treatment of Diseases.** Henry A. Cables, B. S., M. D. Published by C. V. Mosby Co., St. Louis, 1911.

This volume seems to occupy a place midway between a quiz compend and an abridged text book, and it is therefore difficult to determine whether it would be a boon to the "busy practitioner" or a guide to the student. What information it contains covering the diseases of the abdominal and thoracic viscera, blood ductless glands, vascular system, and injections and constitutional diseases, is fairly accurate and embodies most of the salient features of those disorders. Naturally in so small a volume (8 vo. 300 pages) the presentation of the signs and symptoms is confined to a mere enumeration. The treatments recommended, as the author announces, are compiled "from the literature and supplemented by the author's experience." The prescriptions are for the most part of the standard type and present nothing of striking novelty except that one might object to the author's recommendation of mercury in the treatment of pulmonary tuberculosis and to his advice against the employment of tuberculin. If this review conveys no decided expression of approval or the reverse, of this book, it will have been successful in reproducing the impression made on the mind of the reviewer.

G. H. T.

**Bismuth Paste in Chronic Suppurations.** Emil G. Beck, M. D. Published by C. V. Mosby, St. Louis, 1910.

A book devoted to the use of Bismuth Paste to fill cavities, stop discharges and close sinuses. Dr. Beck has to a large extent given up the idea earlier advanced that the therapeutic value of the Bismuth Paste depended upon its radio-activity and now believes that the chemotactic property of the paste is the prime factor. Although this gives the mechanical support of the paste a secondary role, he still holds by a fine thread to its radio-activity, especially when exposed to the X-Rays. I should rather reverse the position of the first two factors and should look at the third as gently as I could. As to diagnostic evidence of the ramifications of chronic sinuses, especially tuberculous sinuses, Bismuth injected in the manner described is surely convincing and explains so that he who runs may read how operation, no matter how radical for the cure of such chronic discharges, so usually fails of its purpose and puts the surgeon who persists in the practice in rather an unfavorable light. As a therapeutic agent Dr. Beck makes out a good case for Bismuth Paste, and not alone Dr. Beck, but most surgeons have found it the greatest addition to our armamentarium in the treatment of some conditions that has been offered. In sinuses existing around bones and joints properly used in selected cases it is of inestimable value and osteo-myelitic spaces heal as kindly and as often, when filled, as those caused by tuberculosis. It is a method which should be carefully tried in proper cases. Dr. Beck advises it in all sorts of cases, from middle-ear disease to tuberculous peritonitis. In fact would fill almost any place with Bismuth and grease. I am afraid it will be overdone and get a bad reputation from misuse rather than from failure to use. We regret to see in an apparently well-gotten up book many misleading radiograms which label evident luetic lesions as tuberculosis, but as the ordinary purchaser gets it for its suggestion of treatment and not for its pathology, probably no great harm will follow such carelessness.

S. J. H.

#### DR. HENRY J. KREUTZMANN'S STATEMENT.

To the Editor of the State Journal:

Dear Sir:

Kindly publish in the California State Journal of Medicine the following "Correction":

In the California State Journal of Medicine for June, 1910, page 216, you have printed, "Dr. Von Hoffman's Statement." This statement refers to an article that appeared in "The Journal" April and May, 1910, in which article I accused Dr. Von Hoffman of a grave breach of medical ethics and decency committed by examining a woman not for the purpose of diagnosis and treatment, but in order to be able to go on the witness stand and give evidence against defendant: that this examination was made upon request of the woman's (plaintiff's) lawyer, who had instituted a suit for damages against me and that Dr. Von Hoffman's testimony was theatrical only.

Dr. v. H. says in his statement, "it was some time previous to the operation that the patient came to me for examination. My diagnosis was fibroid of the uterus. After this I did not see the patient . . . until she again came to my office, after suit had been instituted. I examined her. The result of my examination being the same as on the previous examination. . . . At this time her lawyer visited my office and endeavored to obtain information favorable to his client. His visits ceased when he failed to secure more than the facts."

Now when I made this grave charge against Dr.